

## REMARKS

Claims 1 and 23 have been amended. Claims 43-55 have been canceled. Claims 56-62 have been added. Claims 1-42 and 56-62 are pending. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the application.

### Election/Restrictions

In response to the final restriction requirement, Applicant hereby cancels the non-elected claims 43-55.

### Claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) - Lokuge, Rao and Durham

Claims 1-3, 7-12, 14-26, 30-35, and 37-42 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lokuge in view of Rao. Claims 4-6, 13, 27-29 and 36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lokuge, Rao and in further view of Durham.

As amended, claim 1 recites a method that includes the steps of:

identifying a structure associated a plurality of threaded information entries, the threaded information entries including top-level entries and other threaded information entries;

rendering top-level entries as a first set of substantially linear-shaped graphical representations without text on the display interface; and

for each top-level threaded information entry, rendering other threaded information entries corresponding to the top-level threaded information entry as a second set of substantially linear-shaped graphical representations without text below the graphical representation representing the top-level entry, the second set of substantially linear-shaped graphical representations representing the other corresponding threaded information entries and being indented in accordance with the identified structure.

Claim 23 includes at least one medium with rendering engine instructions for performing the steps recited in claim 1.

Lokuge describes a scalable user interface for displaying hierarchical data. The interface described by Lokuge is similar to the prior art visualization disclosed in Applicant's application. (Compare Lokuge, FIG. 15 and 16 with Applicant's application, FIG. 2). However, Lokuge fails to disclose or suggest the steps, as recited in claim 1. In particular, nothing in Lokuge describes displaying entries of the threaded information as substantially linear-shaped graphical representations without text where the representations are indented in accordance with a structure associated with the threaded information, as disclosed in claim 1. These deficiencies are not remedied by Rao and Durham.

Rao describes a method and system for producing a table image having focus and context regions. Although Rao describes a table with graphical display objects that include a bar graph (See Rao, FIG. 14 and 15), nothing in Rao describes displaying entries of the threaded information as substantially linear-shaped graphical representations without text that are indented in accordance with a structure, as recited in claim 1. Thus, the graphical display objects are not equivalent to the substantially linear-shaped graphical representations disclosed in claim 1.

Durham describes a conversion index builder for generating a record index for a collection of data records. Like Lokuge, Durham also describes data being displayed in a manner similar to the prior art visualization disclosed in Applicant's application. (See Durham, FIG. 3D). However, Durham fails to disclose or suggest the steps recited in claim 1.

For at least the above-identified reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1 and 23 and their dependent claims 2-22 and 24-42 are patentable over Lokuge, Rao and Durham, alone or in combination, and are allowable.

#### New claims

Applicant respectfully submits that new claims 56-62 are allowable for at least the same reasons provided above.

#### Conclusion

Accordingly, in view of the above amendment and remarks it is submitted that the claims are patentably distinct over the cited references and that all the rejections to the claims have been overcome. Reconsideration of the above Application is requested. Based on the foregoing, Applicants respectfully requests that the pending claims be allowed, and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If the Examiner believes, after this response, that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the Applicant's attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Applicants hereby request any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee that is not covered by the enclosed fee transmittal, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 50-0463.

Respectfully submitted,

Microsoft Corporation

Date: October 19, 2005

By: 

Thomas Wong, Reg. No.: 48,577

Attorney for Applicants

Direct telephone (425) 707-3591

Microsoft Corporation

One Microsoft Way

Redmond WA 98052-6399

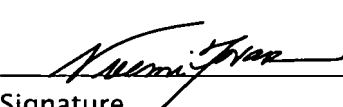
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